

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A computer, comprising:
a housing having an access opening;
a removable access door for tool-less placement in front of the access opening in order to prevent passage through the access opening;
a quick release latching mechanism configured to facilitate the mount and release of the access door to and from the housing, the quick release latching mechanism including a quick release handle that is pivotally coupled to the housing, the rotation of the handle causing the removable access door to be mounted and released to and from the housing.
2. (Original) The computer as recited in claim 1 wherein the removable access door is secured to the housing without using fasteners.
3. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 1 wherein the quick release latching mechanism includes a housing side locking mechanism and a door side locking mechanism that are cooperatively positioned so that when the removable access door is placed in front of the access opening, the locking mechanisms are capable of lockably engaging with each other thus securing the removable access door to the housing, the locking mechanisms engaging and disengaging one another via the rotation of the quick release handle.
4. (Original) The computer as recited in claim 1 wherein the quick release latching mechanism includes a plurality of retention hooks located on the housing that mate with a plurality of hook receivers located on the removable access door, the retention hooks being configured to engage the hook receivers in order to hold the removable access door in front of the opening.
5. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 4 wherein the retention hooks are movable between an engagement position, coupling the retention hooks with the hook receivers, and a disengagement position, decoupling the retention hooks from the hook receivers, the removable access door being secured to the housing when the retention hooks and hook receivers are engaged, the removable access door being released from the housing when the receivers are disengaged.

retention hooks and hook receivers are disengaged, the retention hooks moving between the engagement and disengagement position via the rotation of the quick release handle.

6-27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 5 wherein the retention hooks are positioned on a slider bar that slides relative to the housing, and wherein the sliding action of the slider bar is provided by the rotation of the quick release handle.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 28 further comprising a mechanism for transforming the rotary motion of the quick release handle into linear motion of the slider bar.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 5 wherein the hook receivers include a ramp that causes the access door to move towards the housing as the retention hooks are moved into the hook receivers, and that causes the access door to move away from the housing as the retention hooks are moved out of the hook receivers.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 5 wherein the retention hooks are flanges that protrude away from the housing and the hook receivers are slots built into the access door, the slots being configured to receive the flanges therein.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 5 wherein the retention hooks are positioned within the access opening, and wherein the hook receivers are positioned on an inner surface of the access door.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 1 wherein the quick release handle is seated inside a pocket in the housing when the access door is mounted to the housing and wherein the quick release handle protrudes away from the pocket when the access door is released from the housing, the outer surface of the quick release handle lying flush with the outer surface of the housing when seated inside the pocket.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 33 further comprising a lock receiver configured to receive a padlock so as to prevent the use of the quick release handle, the

lock receiver including a first extension and a second extension, each of which is configured for insertion into an opening in the quick release handle, the lock receiver pivoting within the pocket between a first position, placing the first extension within the opening in the quick release handle, and a second position, placing the second extension within the opening in the quick release handle, the second extension extending past the outer surface of the quick release handle when the second extension is placed within the opening in the quick release handle, the second extension including a hole for receiving the padlock thereby preventing a user from rotating the quick release handle.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer, comprising:

a housing having an access opening;
a removable access door for covering the access opening; and
a latching system including a housing side locking mechanism and a door side locking mechanism that when engaged secure the removable access door to the housing and that when disengaged allow the release of the removable access door from the housing;
a quick release handle configured to facilitate the engagement and disengagement of the locking mechanisms via a pivoting action, the quick release handle pivoting between an open position where the locking mechanisms are forced into disengagement thereby releasing the access door from the housing, and a closed position where the locking mechanisms are forced into lockable engagement thereby securing the access door to the housing.

36. (Currently Amended) The computer as recited in claim 35 wherein the housing side locking mechanism includes a plurality of flanges that slide side to side relative to the housing and within the access opening, and wherein the door side locking mechanism includes a plurality of slots that are built into the inner surface of the access door, the flanges being configured for insertion into the slots when the access door is positioned in front of the access opening.

37. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 36 further comprising a mechanism for transforming the pivoting action of the handle to the sliding motion of the flanges.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 36 further comprising a stiffener that is attached to an inner surface of the planar access door, the stiffener being configured for insertion into a recess within the access opening when the access door covers the access opening.

39. (Previously Presented) The computer as recited in claim 38 wherein the access door and housing are formed from metal, and wherein an EMI gasket is positioned around the outer perimeter of the stiffener, the EMI gasket shielding interference at the interface between the housing and the access door.

40. (Previously Presented) A computer, comprising:
a housing having an access opening and a continuous recess at the edge of the access opening;

a removable access door for tool-less placement in front of the access opening in order to prevent passage through the access opening, the removable access door including a plurality of hook receivers positioned on an inner surface of the access door, and a continuous retention lip for insertion into the recess of the housing, the engagement of the retention lip and the recess allowing the removable access door to be rotated into the access opening;

a quick release latching mechanism for securing the access door to the housing and for releasing the access door from the housing, the quick release latching mechanism comprising,

a slider assembly having a slider bar that is slidably retained to the housing, and a plurality of retention hooks that are attached to the slider bar and located within the access opening, each of the retention hooks including a flange that is configured to capture corresponding hook receivers of the access door when the slider bar is slid into an engaged position, and to release corresponding hook receivers of the access door when the slider bar is slid into a disengaged position;

a handle that is pivotally coupled to the housing;

a motion transform assembly for transforming the rotary motion of the handle to the sliding motion of the slider bar, the rotation of the handle in a first direction causing the slider bar to move from the disengaged position to the engaged position, the rotation of the handle in a second direction causing the slider bar to move from the engaged position to the disengaged position.

41. (Withdrawn) The computer as recited in claim 40 further comprising:
a quick release removable fan module that slides in and out of an interior portion of the

housing, the fan module making tool-less electrical and mechanical connections with the computer when the fan module is slid into the housing, the fan module making tool-less electrical and mechanical disconnections with the computer when the fan module is slid out of the housing

42. (Withdrawn) The computer as recited in claim 40 further comprising:
a drive configured for tool-less placement inside an interior portion of the housing; and
a second quick release latching mechanism configured to facilitate the mounting and release of the disk drive to and from the housing.
43. (Withdrawn) The computer as recited in claim 40 further comprising:
a disk drive disposed inside said housing adjacent a drive opening in the housing;
a drive door that slides internally and linearly up and down relative to the housing between an opened position where the drive door is placed away from the opening in order to allow access through the opening and a closed position where the drive door is placed in front of the opening in order to prevent access through the opening.